

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 FEA-01  
ACDA-07 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 ERDA-05 DHA-02 /121 W  
-----023573 131240Z /53

O R 131130Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 953

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

DIA WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

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USIAEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MNUC, SOPN, UR,US, SF

SUBJECT: SOVIET MEDIA ATTACK U.S. SUPPORT OF S. AFRICAN NUCLEAR  
PROGRAM

SUMMARY. SOVIET CRITICISM OF ALLEGED U.S. SUPPORT OF S. AFRICAN  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT HAS ESCALATED SINCE AUGUST 9 PUBLI-  
CATION OF TASS STATEMENT ON S. AFRICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM.  
AMERICAN JOURNALISTS HAVE MADE MUCH OF ARTICLE CARRIED IN  
AUGUST 11 NOVOSTI REVIEW WHICH WAS NOT PRINTED IN CENTRAL  
PRESS. END SUMMARY.

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1. GROWING SOVIET MEDIA CRITICISM OF ALLEGED WESTERN (I.E. NATO  
COUNTRIES) ISRAEL, AND (IN PARTICULAR) U.S. SUPPORT OF S.  
AFRICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM IS EXEMPLIFIED BY AUGUST 11  
IZVESTIYA CARTOON SHOWING NATO AND ISRAEL LOOKING ON APPROVINGLY  
WHILE S. AFRICA ARMS WEAPON LABELLED "APARTHEID" AND "AGGRESSION"  
WITH "URANIUM FROM U.S.A." AND "HEAVY WATER FROM U.S.A.".

2. EVEN NASTIER PIECE IS AUGUST 12 IZVESTIYA ARTICLE BY M. MIKHAYLOV, WHO SPECIFICALLY CRITICIZES U.S. FOR NOT CONDEMNING LACK OF S. AFRICAN ACCESSION TO NPT AND FOR "ENABLING THE BUILD-ING UP OF THE NUCLEAR POTENTIAL" OF S. AFRICA. MIKHAYLOV ALSO SUPPORTS IDEA THAT WASHINGTON'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF WORK ON NEUTRON BOMB HAS CREATED ARMS RACE ATMOSPHERE WHICH PRETORIA HAS EXPLOIT-ED TO "HURRY WITH CARRYING OUT TEST OF ITS OWN NUCLEAR WEAPON".

3. HOWEVER, SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS HAS NOT YET GONE SO FAR AS TASS AUGUST 9 ARTICLE ON SUBJECT BY ALEKSANDER BOKHONKO, WHICH WAS CARRIED IN AUGUST 11 DAILY NOVOSTI ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS ROUNDUP. U.S. JOURNALISTS HERE HAVE SEIZED ON ARTICLE, WHICH CHARGES U.S. WITH SALE OF ENRICHED URANIUM TO S. AFRICA AND TRAINING OF S. AFRICAN SPECIALISTS AT OAK RIDGE. EMBASSY DOES NOT RECALL THIS ARTICLE EVEN RUNNING OVER TASS ENGLISH WIRE, ALTHOUGH OUR FILE IS INCOMPLETE. TO BE SURE IT IS IN DEPARTMENT'S HANDS, FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT. "WHO SUPPLIES THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WITH NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY?" BY ALEXANDER BOKHONKO.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN RACIALIST REGIME SEEKS TO GET HOLD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE PRETORIA REGIME IS ASSISTED IN THIS BY WESTERN POWERS, NATO MEMBERS, AS WELL AS BY ISRAEL, DESPITE THE UNITED NATIONS' DECISIONS THAT BAN MILITARY COOPERATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH THE RACIALISTS. IN ADDITION TO DELIVERIES OF CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS-- PLANES, TANKS AND SHIPS, THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA RECEIVES FROM THE UNITED STATES AND WESTERN EUROPE VARIED NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION, CADRES OF SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR SPECIALISTS ARE TRAINED WITH NATO'S ASSISTANCE. A NUCLEAR REACTOR OPERATES IN PELINDABA, NOT FAR FROM PRETORIA, AND ANOTHER NUCLEAR REACTOR WAS BUILT IN WALINDABA.

CONDEMNING IN WORDS THE VORSTER RACIALIST REGIME, WASHINGTON APPROVED IN 1975 AND IN 1976 THE SALE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA OF OVER 50 KILOGRAMMES OF URANIUM, ENRICHED TO THE DE-GREE NECESSARY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ATOMIC BOMBS. COURSES FOR TRAINING SPECIALISTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WERE OPENED IN THE SCIENTIFIC CENTRE OF THE AMERICAN TOWN OF OAKRIDGE. THE "FRAMATOME" COMPANY IN WHICH FRENCH, BELGIAN AND AMERICAN CAPITAL PARTICIPATES CONCLUDED LAST YEAR AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ATOMIC POWER STATION IN KUBERGET.

THE WASHINGTON POST REPORTS THAT ACCORDING TO AN AGREEMENT REACHED BY PRETORIA AND WASHINGTON, THE US SIDE PLEDGED ITSELF TO DELIVER IN 1981-1984 ENRICHED NUCLEAR FUEL FOR TWO REACTORS

OF THIS POWER STATION.

THE WESTERN POWERS TRY TO JUSTIFY THEIR ACTIONS, ALLEGING THAT THEIR DEALS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA HAVE A "PEACEFUL" NATURE. BUT NUCLEAR PROJECTS BUILT IN SOUTH AFRICA BY WESTERN MONOPOLIES ARE FAR FROM HARMLESS. ALL THESE PROJECTS CAN PRODUCE MATERIALS FOR MILITARY PURPOSES. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, REACTORS OF THE POWER STATION THAT "FRAMATOME" INTENDS TO BUILD WILL BE ABLE TO ANNUALLY PRODUCE THE AMOUNT OF PLUTONIUM REQUIRED FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF 100 ATOMIC BOMBS. THE

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WEST'S SINISTER COOPERATION WITH THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA HAS ENABLED THE RACIALISTS TO COME WITHIN THE REACH OF CREATING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND OF STARTING TO PREPARE TESTS. THE RINGLEADER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RACIALISTS VORSTER ADMITTED IN AN INTERVIEW THAT THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA IS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING NUCLEAR WEAPONS OF ITS OWN.

THE ACTIONS OF WESTERN POWERS HELP STRENGTHEN THE PRETORIA RACIALIST REGIME WHICH TRIES TO SUPPRESS BY ARMED FORCE THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE MOUNTING IN THE SOUTH OF AFRICA.

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ITS GETTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, WOULD BE A DIRECT THREAT TO SECURITY OF AFRICAN STATES, WOULD LEAD TO A SHARP ESCALATION OF TENSION IN THE SUTH OF AFRICA AND WOULD INCREASE THE MILITARY DANGER FOR ENTIRE MANKIND. AFTER ALL, THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA HAS NOT SIGNED THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. THE STRIVING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITES TO HAVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, WHICH IS ENCOURAGED BY THE WEST AND ISRAEL, CONTRADICTS INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS AT AVERTING THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE DEMAND OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO TURN THE AFRICAN CONTINENT INTO A NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE.

A TASS STATEMENT STRESSES THAT CREATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WOULD HAVE THE MOST SERIOUS, FAR-REACHING CONSEQUENCES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY OF NATIONS. THE SOVIET UNION'S LEADERSHIP BELIEVES THAT URGENT EFFECTIVE ACTIONS OF ALL STATES, OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC ARE REQUIRED TO PREVENT CREATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND TO AVERT A DANGER OF THEIR SPREAD. END TEXT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Type:** TE  
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